

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Third Annual Session

OF THE

WALHONDING

REGULAR BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD IN

Fallsberry Church, Licking County, O.

On the 11th, 12th and 13th Days of September, 1857.

MILLERSBURG:

J. H. & D. G. NEWTON, PRINTERS.

1857.

MINUTES, &c.

- 1st. Introductory sermon by Eld. E. Purdy, from Rom. 8, 33
 2d. Letters called for and read :

TIMES OF PREACHING.	MESSENGERS' NAMES.	Baptised ...	By letter ...	Dismissed ..	Expelled ...	Died	Total.....	Money
Killbuck Church, 1st and 3d Lord's Days by Eld. E. Purdy.	Elijah Purdy..... G. D. Miller..... J. Purdy.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	31	2 00*
Walhonding Church, once a month by Eld. M. McQueen.	J. Curtis..... J. Barret..... R. Lockerd.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	20	3 00
Fallsbury Church, 1st Lord's Day, by Eld. M. McQueen.	Thos. Gorley..... J. Frost..... M. McQueen.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	18	2 00
Southrun, no letter nor messenger.	..... ..... .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00
3 21								1 69.8 00

* \$175 in hand.

3d. Singing and prayer by Eld. M. McQueen ; and the association organized by choosing brethren E. Purdy moderator, and J. Purdy clerk.

4th. On motion, invited corresponding messengers and visiting brethren to a seat in counsel.

5th. Corresponding associations, Muskingum, Eld. Wm. Butler by minutes ; Scioto, Eld. D. Scofield by minutes ; Owlcreek, Eld. Lewis ; Licking, brother J. Evins by minutes and certificate.

6th. The first named messengers from each church appointed a committee to arrange the order of preaching of this association.

7th. Appointed brethren G. D. Miller, M. McQueen and J. Curtis, with the moderator and clerk, a committee to arrange the business of this association.

8th. The circular letter written by brother G. D. Miller received for record, and the corresponding letter written by brother McQueen, also received for record.

9th. Appointed brother E. Purdy to write the corresponding letter for next year, and J. Purdy to write the circular letter.

10th. Corresponding messengers to association next year, Muskingum, brother M. McQueen and J. Barret to convene Friday before 4th Lord's day in August next, in the town of Lexington, Perry county ; Owlcreek, brethren E. Purdy and G. D. Miller to convene Friday before 4th Lord's Day in August next in ...

church, Marion county; Scioto, brethren G. D. Miller and J. Curtis to convene Saturday before 3d Lord's Day in August next in Frankfort church, Ross county; Licking, brethren Thos. Gorley and J. Frost to convene Friday before the 1st Lord's Day in Sept. next in Harmony church, 3 miles west of Alexander, Licking Co.

11th. On motion adjourned to to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, Singing and prayer by the moderator.

12th. The association convened pursuant to adjournment. Singing; prayer by brother Scofield.

13th. The association next year to convene in Walhonding Ch. Friday before the 2d Lord's Day in Sept. in Perry township, Coshocton county.

14th. Printing of the minutes (150 copies,) the clerk to superintend the printing and distribution.

15th. The appointment of an Elder to preach the introductory sermon dispensed with till the day of the adjourned meeting of this association.

16th. On motion adjourned. Singing; prayer by Eld. M. McQueen.

Order of preaching on the stand after introductory sermon:

Eld. James Biggs, from I. Peter, 4: 11. Eld. Wm. Butler, from II. Corinthians, 5: 17.

Saturday, Sept. 12, preaching by brother J. Evins I. Tim. 4: 2.

" " Eld. Scofield, II. Cor. 8: 9.

" " Lewis, John 4: 29.

" " Canfman, Psal. 23: 1.

Lord's Day, Sept. 13, " " Prechard, I. Peter, 1: 9.

" " Biggs, II. Tim. 3: 16, 17.

" " Crabtree, John, 5: 39.

CORRESPONDING LETTER FOR THE YEAR 1857.

The Walhonding Regular Baptist Association to the associations with whom she corresponds send christian love:

Dear Brethren: We are once more permitted to meet in an associated capacity with God's dear children and servants and of hearing the glorious news of life and salvation through a dear Redeemer by whom we are taught to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free and stand together in the defence of the Gospel and in nothing terrified by our adversaries although there are many around us that would pervert the Gospel of Christ and put down his cause, his children and ministry. But the Lord supports his own and we have been much comforted by the brethren from a distance who have preached the glorious Gospel in its purity we believe and we have been made to rejoice together in hope of the glory of God. Therefore we wish a continuance of your friendly correspondence and we pray that the Lord may bless, guide and direct you and us in his own right way while we stay in this unfriendly world. Farewell.

CIRCULAR LETTER FOR THE YEAR 1857.

The Messengers composing the Walhonding Regular Baptist Association, to the Churches whom they represent, send their love:

Dearlly Beloved Brethren in the Lord Jesus:—As it has been a custom of long standing with us to address you upon some Gospel subject through a circular letter, on the present occasion we would call your attention to 1st Timothy 2 : 5. "For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." All that we know of that one God, and that one Mediator, the man Christ Jesus, is from the holy Scriptures of divine truth, therefore we refer to them. Geneses 21 : 33, "Abraham planted a grove in Bersheba, and called there on the name of the Lord the everlasting God." Exodus 15 : 18, "the Lord shall reign forever and ever." Deut. 33 : 27, "the eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." Psal. 45 : 6, "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever." Again, 90 : 2, "Before the mountains were bro't forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting thou art God." Again, 93 : 2, "Thy throne is established of old, thou art from everlasting." Isaiah 44 : 6, "Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts, I am the first and am the last, and besides me, there is no God." Again, 46 : 19, 11, "My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure; yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring to pass; I have proposed, I will also do it." Again, 45 : 21, "There is no God else besides me, a just God and a Savior." Again, 57 : 15, "For thus saith the high and lofty one, that inhabiteth eternity." Rev. 1 : 8, "I am alpha, and omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come the Almighty.

Sufficient Scriptures have been repeated to establish the eternal, self-existent, all wise, almighty, sovereign, unchangeable, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, and ever living as well as loving and true God; second, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. The man Christ Jesus by the name wisdom, Proverbs 8, from 21 to 31, which reads: I was set up from everlasting from the beginning or ever the earth was made. When he appointed the foundation of the earth, there I was by him as one brought up with him, and I was daily his delight. Rejoicing always before him, rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth, and my delights was with the sons of men. Now brethren, we that are taught by Revelation may plainly see that the man Christ Jesus was the object of God's love, and because God is love, He was the first beloved. St John 1 : 18, No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father he hath declared Him. God in Him and He in God, Hebrews, 1 : 6, and again, when He bringeth in the first begotten into the world, He saith, and let all the angels of God worship Him. Next to that every blessed Mediator, was His seed in Him, which embraces all the Church of God, first chosen and predestinated, &c., Ephe. 1st chapter to the 12th verse. Also 2d Timothy, 1 : 9, and many other places. In the second place the Father gave them to Him;

in the third place, this loving Mediator bought them with a great price. They had sold themselves for nought, and they were bought without money, but with no less then the precious blood of this great and glorious Mediator. Titus 2: 14, Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself peculiar people, zealous of good works. Now let us begin at the Creation: St. John, 1: 1, 2, 3, In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God.— The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. Again, I. John, 1: 1, 2, 3, That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and our hands have handled, of the word of life; For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us. On the sixth day of Creation, Gen. 1: 26, 27, 28, And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image; in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them; and God blessed them. And God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it, and have dominion, as in the former verse. In the second chapter, 7th verse, we read: And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul, which shows plain that the soul is the essence, substance or being of man, and that of Adam was made as God said, in our image, after our likeness, and have dominion, &c. Gen. 2: 15, 16, 17, And the Lord took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it, for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Gen. 3d chapter, from the 1st to the 7th verse, we find that Eve and Adam partook of the forbidden fruit. Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression, Tim. 2: 14.— But the woman gave also to her husband with her and he did eat, wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so this Mediator is here called the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, not in anger and wrath, but in loving kindness and forbearance. Tim. the 10th to the 20th, after an investigation with Adam, Eve, and Serpent, he cursed the Serpent above every beast of the field, and put enmity between the serpent's seed and the woman's seed, &c. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children, and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. Unto Adam He said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast

eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee saying, thou shalt not eat of it, cursed is the ground for thy sake, &c.; 22d verse, behold the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil. In the former chapter we read, let us make man in our image, after our likeness, &c. Now by eating the forbidden fruit, he has become as one of us—the Mediator, the man Christ Jesus, was the head and representative of all his children or spiritual family. So Adam was head and representative of all his natural family, as it is said of Adam, who is the figure of Him that was to come, in all the old testament, as well as in the new, when the Lord God revealed or manifested Himself to the saints, it was by this Mediator. Gal. 3: 8, And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the Gospel unto Abraham, saying, in thee shall all nations be blessed. Gen. 18: 10. A son promised to Abraham. Again, in the 22: 2, And He said, take now thy son, thy only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah, and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. Isaac was a figure of the man Christ Jesus. Gal. 3: 16, He saith not, and to seeds as of many, but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ. He appeared unto Jacob, Gen. 28: 12. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said Moses, Moses, and he said here am I, Exodus, from the 3d chapter. Throughout all the book of Moses, this same Moses the Lord sent unto Pharaoh to let the children of Israel go.—He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the red sea, and in the wilderness forty years, Acts 7: 36. This is that man Christ Jesus that said to the Hebrews, My sheep hear My voice; My Father which gave them Me is greater than all, and none is able to pluck them out of My Father's hands; I and My Father are one, St John 10: 27, 29, 30. Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by Me, St John 14: 6. No man hath ascended up to heaven, but He that came from heaven, even the son of man which is in heaven, St John 3: 13. But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood, Heb. 7: 24. But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins, forever sat down on the right hand of God; for by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified, Heb. 10: 12, 14. All the holy bible, harmonic in this one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, and it is said in him dwelleth all the fullness of the godhead bodily.

Now beloved brethren, it becomes us to examine ourselves whether we are in the faith. Prove your yourselves. Know ye not your yourselves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates, Cor. 13: 5. Do each and every one of us know that we are born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God; not of the corruptible seed but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever;

not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being his workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which, God hath ordained that we should walk in them. Do we love God, because He first loved us? By this we know that we loveth the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are My Disciples, if ye have love one to another. Let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren, and this commandment have we from Him, that he who loveth God, love his brother also. For whatsoever is born of God, overcometh the world, and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith, that is, the faith of God's elect. Now beloved, let us try our faith, by our works, have we put off the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created, in righteousness and true holiness, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Walk worthy of the vocation where with ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love, and let us consider one another, to provoke unto love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching, always careful to maintain good works for necessary uses, and as much as in us lies. Live peaceable with all men, with supplications, prayers, intercessions. Let giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings, and for all that are in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, in all Godliness and honesty. Finally, brethren, farewell, be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you—Amen.

ELIJAH PURDY, Moderator.

JOSIAH PURDY, Clerk.

